

-- Claim 51. The apparatus of Claim 42, wherein the light source means includes means for producing a collimated light beam; and

wherein the light source means includes focusing means for focusing the collimated light beam to a confocal region located with tissue at a point below the tissue surface. --

-- Claim 52. The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein said focusing means includes means for modifying said collimated light beam so as to improve the quality or sharpness of said confocal region. --

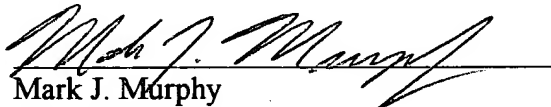
REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is to add additional claims to further the scope of protection of this application. Please charge our deposit account no. 03-3135 for the fee for these new claims and if any additional fee should be due.

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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